



Association for
**Iranian
Studies**

AIS-Council would like to condemn the recent eruption of violence witnessed in Gaza, West Bank, and East Jerusalem. The events of May 2021 have led to the chaotic disruption of everyday life in Gaza, Jerusalem and the West Bank, and Israel, witnessed the disproportionate suffering on the side of the Palestinians, acts of retaliation towards Israeli citizens, and the shocking attack on the international media. As the elected representatives of a community of scholars of regions and diaspora communities of the globe with a Persian and Iranian legacy, we declare our support for the Palestinian cause, for all peaceful efforts to establish equal rights for Palestinian citizens of Israel, and for independence for Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza.

AIS-Council declares the following:

- We concur with the essential point of many recent statements by academic societies, including those of the [MESA Board](#) and [BRISMES](#), condemning the actions of the Netanyahu Administration in the escalation of violence in Gaza.
- We express our solidarity for [Palestine campaigns](#) and extend our support for the [Israeli peace movement](#).
- We condemn the violence perpetrated against civilians by both the IDF and Hamas.
- We condemn the policies of foreign governments, particularly in the form of military and financial assistance, that have directly resulted in the eruption of the violence and in the suffering of civilians.

AIS-Council supports a peaceful solution, calling for all diplomatic, commercial and cultural efforts to be focused on pressuring Israeli leaders to move away from the hyper-militarized status quo that denies Palestinians and Arab citizens of Israel their human rights in every respect.